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Data processing network with upgrading of files.

A data processing network in which a plurality of workstations such as personal computers (PC) (12) are connected to a host processor (11) and contain PC programs at particular levels for controlling tasks on the personal computers. The personal computers send a signal to the host when they are about to conduct a task indicating which data files they have and at what level. The host has an object library containing a copy of each disk file for each version of PC program. The host determines if the personal computer has the latest level data file for the version of program at that personal computer and, if it does not, sends a copy of the latest level data file to the personal computer to replace the down-level data file.

Preferably the host checks if the personal computer has all the data files it needs for the particular task and, if it does not and if it should because of the version of PC program stored at the PC, the host can load a copy of the missing file to the personal computer.

The host does not have to contain a record of all the levels of all the programs of all the personal computers connected to it. However by updating the object library in the host this arrangement ensures that all personal computers connected to it are automatically brought to the latest authorised level as data files are required by the personal computer.

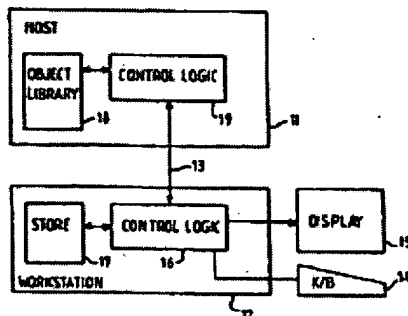


FIG. 2